

MINUTES

OF THE

Thirty-Seventh Annual Session

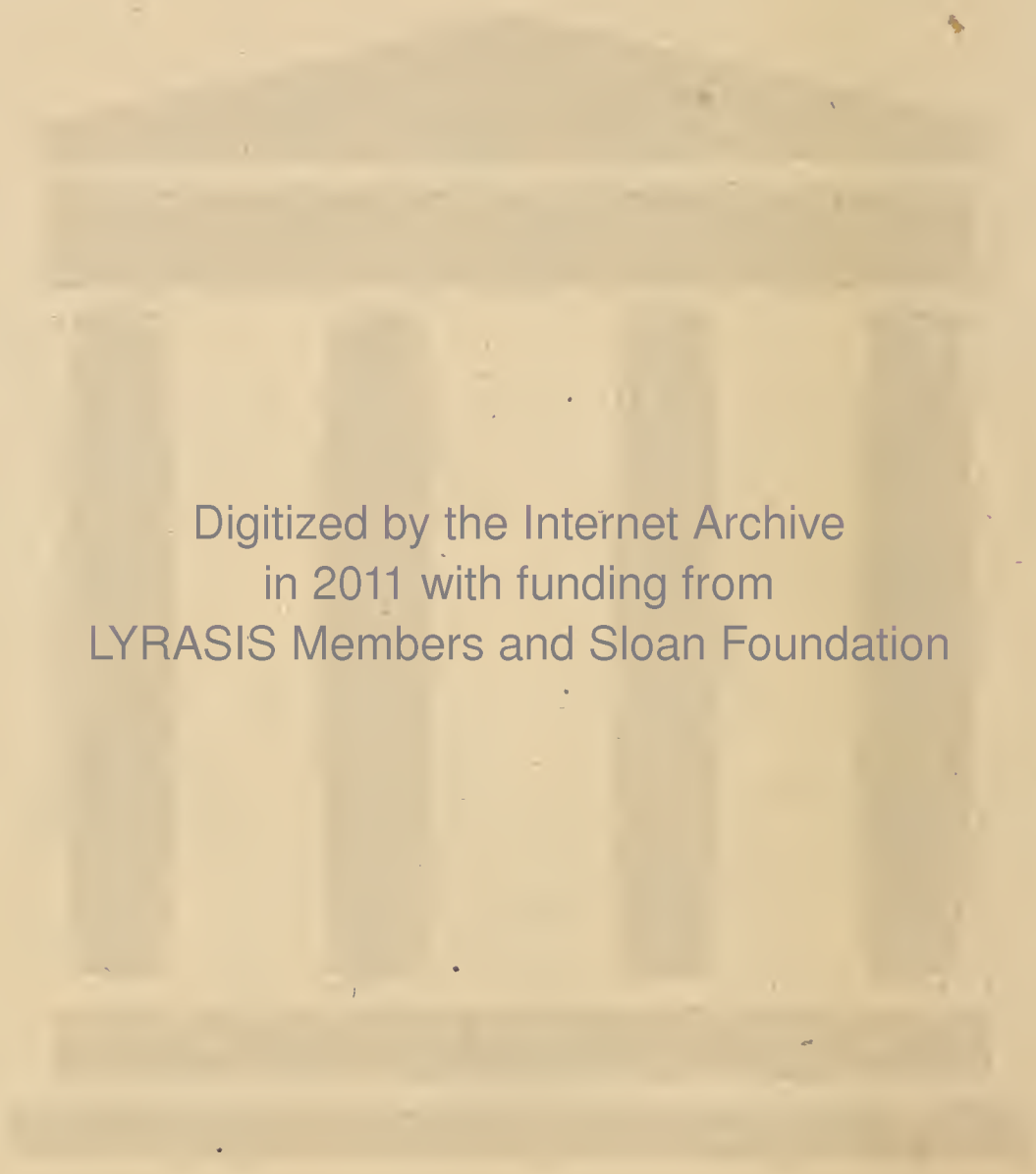
OF THE

WETUMPKA**BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,**

OF THE PRIMITIVE ORDER,

HELD WITH

Ebenezer Church,*SHELBY COUNTY, ALABAMA,**September 27th, 28th and 29th, 1879.*



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SEPTEMBER 27th, 1879.

THE WETUMPKA ASSOCIATION assembled with the Ebenezer Church.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder J. P. Sayers, from the 11th chapter and 28th verse of St. Mathew. "Come unto me all ye that labor, and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

After an intermission of 40 minutes the delegates assembled in the house, prayer by Elder J. M. Dikes.

Read the letters and enrolled the delegates names (See Table.)

Elected Elder B. Jowers, Moderator and John S. Ogle-tree, Clerk.

Invited Ministering brethren and Corresponding brethren to seats with us.

Called for Corresponding Minutes.

Appointed the following committees :

To arrange preaching. L. M. Parker, B. F. Kelley, D. J. Sayers, with the delegates of Ebenezer church, J. E. McCall, I. K. Crumpton.

To arrange business to come before the body; J. M. Dikes, J. McLeroy, William Downs.

To write the Corresponding letter, F. C. Stephens.

To examine Corresponding Minutes, J. P. Sayers, R. Ward, W. L. Parrish.

Called for Petitionary Churches, and received Rockamount, Talladega county, and the Moderator extended the right hand of fellowship to the delegates, John Andrews, J. M. C. Norman, also received Pleasant Hill, Tallapoosa county, and the Moderator extended the right hand of fellowship to her delegates, John L. Lambreth, W. G. Forshe.

Adjourned until Monday morning 9 o'clock, prayer by Elder J. T. Allen, preaching by Elder J. L. Lambreth, followed by J. J. Daniel.

SUNDAY, Sept. 28.

Preaching in the forenoon by Elder J. T. Allen, followed by Elder Benjamin Jowers, afternoon by Elder J. M. Dikes, followed by F. C. Stephens.

MONDAY, Sept. 29.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Elder J. P. Sayers.

Called for the report of the Brethren on arrangement of business, which was read and adopted as follows :

Called the role and read the decorum.

Renewed the invitation to Brethren in the ministry and Corresponding Brethren to seats with us

Called for Correspondence from sister Associations as follows :

From the Bulah, no correspondance.

From the Primitive Western, no correspondence.

From the Hillabee, no correspondence.

From Connecuh River, no correspondence.

From the Five Mile Creek. J. V. Creel with minutes.

From the Cane Creek, no correspondence.

From the Little Hope, Elders J. T. Allen, J. J. Daniel, with letter and minutes.

Returned Correspondance as follows :

To the Bulah, Elders J. McLeroy, Brethren J. D. M. Jowers, W. H. Sayers.

To the Primitive Western, by minutes.

To the Connecuh River, Elder J. M. Dikes, Brother R. Ward.

To the Cane Creek, Letter and Minute.

To the Hillabee, Elders J. P. Sayers, J. McLeroy, J. E. McCall, J. M. Dikes, Brethren William Downs, and J. M. C. Norman.

To the Five Mile Creek, Elders J. P. Sayers,, J. McElroy, and brethren J. M. C. Norman, Wm. Downs, T. P. Watson.

To the Little Hope, Elders J. P. Sayer, J. McElroy, J. M. Dikes, I. K. Crumpton, and brethren J. M. C. Norman, Wm. Downs, T. P. Watson.

Called for the Corresponding Letter, which was read and adopted.

Called for the Report of the Brethren to examine corresponding Minutes. They report they find nothing claiming the attention of the "Body."

Appointed Union Meetings as follows: (the first district having first choice.)

1st District, Coosa River, commencing Friday before the 4th Sunday in July 1880.

2nd District, Salem, commencing Friday before the third Sunday in July 1880.

3rd District, Mt. Carmel, Friday before the 3rd Sunday in August 1880.

Called for contributions and distributed corresponding Minutes. Contributions from the Churches \$28.50.

Agreed to have 600 copies of this Minute printed, with Scriptural proof; the Clerk to superintend the printing and distribution of the same. As a compensation he to receive the balance on hand.

Appointed the next session of this Body to be held with Swamp Creek Church, Coosa county, Ala., 7 miles southwest of Rockford, and 11 miles southeast of Smith's Ferry on Coosa River, and 7 miles north Williams' Mill on Wewoka on the Chancellor road, commencing on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in September 1880.

Called for miscellaneous business, when the committee appointed to look after Roma Church reported that they had visited the few remaining members and found them unwilling to be dissolved. Committee discharged.

Resolved that this body return her thanks to the brethren and sisters and friends in the vicinity of Ebenezer church for the kindness and hospitality manifested to us during our stay with them. Also resolved that whereas it has pleased God in His wisdom to remove from our midst our much esteemed and beloved Brother James Baxley, former Clerk, since our last session, and while we deeply feel the loss, we bow with humble submission to His divine will, knowing that the Lord of hosts can do no wrong; and we tender our sympathies to his bereaved family, believing that our loss has been his eternal gain. But we do not mourn as for those who have no hope, for if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, so also will those who sleep in Jesus, God being with them.

Read the Minutes and adjourned, prayer by the Moderator, and the parting hand extended.

BENJAMIN JOWERS, Moderator.

JOHN S. OGLETREE, Clerk.

The brethren who occupied the stand from day to day seemed to preach with the spirit, and we hope it may have a lasting effect.

—(o)—

Corresponding Letter.

THE Wetumpka Association to her Sister Associations with whom she corresponds, GREETING :

DEAR BRETHREN ; God in His goodness has blessed us with the privilege of holding another session of our Body. The business has been conducted harmoniously, the Churches have nearly all been represented, and the letters indicate peace and harmony. The Brethren Correspondence has not been as full as we desired; but we desire a continuance of your friendly correspondence; and hope to meet a fuller correspondence in the future. The Brethren who have occupied the stand from day to day have, we hope, been edifying and comforting to the children of God.

Our next session will be held with Swamp Creek Church, Coosa County, Alabama, commencing on Saturday before the 4th Sabbath in September 1880. Swamp Creek Church is seven miles South-West of Rockford, and eleven miles south-east of Smith's Ferry on Coosa river, and seven miles north of Williams' Mill on the Wewoka or Chancelor road.

BENJAMIN JOWERS, Moderator.

JOHN S. OGLETREE, Clerk.

CONFESSION OF FAITH AND SCRIPTURAL PROOFS.

ARTICLE 1. We believe in the one true and living God the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost.

We prove this from John 1 chap. 5 v.: "For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one." St. John 1 chap. 1 v.: "In the beginning was the word and the word was with God and the word was God" Chap. 10 v. 30.: "I and my father are one." St. John 17 chap. 3 v.: "And this is life eternal that they might know Thee, the only true God and Jesus Christ whom thou hath sent."

Art. 2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God and the only rule of faith and practice. 2 Tim. 3 chap. 16 v.: "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." 2 Peter 1 chap. 4 v.: "For the prophesy came not in old time by the will of man, but Holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." Heb. 1 chap. 1 v.: "God who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the Prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom He hath appointed heir of all things by whom also he made the world."

Art. 3. We believe that God elected or chose his people in Christ before the foundation of the world, that they should be holy and without blame before Him in love.

Psalms 33 chap. 12 v.: "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, and the people whom He hath chosen for his own inheritance." Eph. 1 chap. 4 v.: "According as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love." 1 Peter 1 chap. 2 v.: "Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the spirit unto obedience, and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus

Christ, grace unto you and peace be multiplied." Acts 9 chap. 15 v. : "For He is a chosen vessel unto me to bear my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel."

Art. 4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin, and man impotency to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature, by his own free will and ability.

Rom. 5 chap. 12 v. : "Wherefore as by one man, sin entered into the world, and death by sin, so death passed upon all men for that all have sinned." Rom. 3 chap. 23 v. : "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Rom. 7 chap. 14 v. : "For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am carnal, sold under sin." 8 chap. 7 v. : "Because the carnal mind is enmity against God, for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be." John 6 chap. 44 v. : "No man can come to me except the Father which hath sent me, draw him."

Art. 5. We believe that sinners are justified in sight of God, only by the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ.

Rom. 10 chap. 4 v. : "For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth." 2 Cor. 5 chap. 24 v. : "For He hath made Him to be sin for us who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him." 1 Cor. 1 chap. 30 v. : "But of him are ye in Christ Jesus who of God is made unto us wisdom and righteousness etc." Gal. 2 chap. 21 v. : "For if righteousness came by the law then Christ is dead in vain."

Art. 6. We believe that God's elect shall be called, effectually regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Ghost, and shall persevere in grace and never finally fall away.

1 Cor. 1 chap. 2 v. : "To them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus called to be saints with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours" Titus 3 chap. 5 v. : "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost." Heb. 2 chap. 11 v. : "For both He that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one, for which cause He is not ashamed to call them brethren."

Art. 7. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, that true believers are the only subjects of these ordinances, and the true mode of Baptism is immersion.

Mark 1 chap. 9 v. : "And it came to pass in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Gallilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan." 16 chap. 16 v. : "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." Acts 22 chap. 16 v. : And now

why tarriest thou, arise and be baptized." 8 chap. 37 verse.: "And Philip said if thou believest with all thine heart thou mayest, and he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." 38 verse.: "And he commanded the chariot to stand still and they went down into the water, both Philip and the Eunich, and he baptized him." Rom. 6 chap. 4 v.: "Therefore, we are buried with him by baptism into death, that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father even so, etc.

NOW THE SUPPER: Mat. 26 chap. 26 v.: "And as they were eating Jesus took bread and blessed it, and break it and gave it to his disciples, and said, take, eat, this is my body." 27 verse.: "And he took the cup and gave thanks and gave it to them, saying drink ye all of it." 28 verse.: "For this is my blood of the New Testament which is shed for many for the remission of sins."

1st Cor. v. chap. xi v.: "If any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or an adolator, or a railer, or an extortioner, with such an one no not to eat." 11 chap. 29 v.: "For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body."

Art. 8. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgment, and that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting, and that the joys of the righteous will be eternal. Mat. 28 chap. 5 v.: "And the angels answered and said unto the woman, fear not ye for I know that ye seek Jesus which was crucified." 6 v.: "He is not here for he is risen as he said." 7 v.: "And go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead."

Acts 24 chap. 15 v.: "There shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust." 17 chap 31 v.: "Because He hath appointed a day in which he will judge the world in righteousness, by that, man, whom he hath ordained; whereof He hath given assurance unto all men in that He hath raised them from the dead." John 5 chap. 28:29 vs.: "Marvel not at this, for the hour is coming in which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice and shall come forth. They that have done good unto the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation."

Art. 9. We believe that no minister has a right to administer the ordinances, only such as are called of God, as was Aaron, and come under the imposition of hands by a Presbytery, and in fellowship with the church of which he is a member.

Leviticus 8 chap 1 v.: "And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, take Aaron and his sons with him." Hebrews 5 chap. 14 v.: "No man taketh this honor unto himself, but he that is

called of God, as was Aaron." 1 Tim. 4 chap. 14 v. : "Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by Prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the Presbytery." Acts 13 chap. 23 v. : "The Holy Ghost said, separate me Barnabus and Saul, for the work whereunto I have called them, and when they had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them they sent them away."

Art. 10. We believe that God has ordained good works that His children should walk in them, and that good works are only such as God hath commanded in His word and not such as without the warrant thereof are devised by men out of blind zeal or upon any pretense of good intentions.

Eph. 2 chap. 10 v. : "For we are His workmanship created in Christ Jesus unto good works which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." James 2 chap. 18 v. : "Show me thy faith without thy works and I will show thee my faith by my works." Romans 10 chap. 3 v. : "For they being ignorant of God's righteousness have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God." Titus 3 chap. 5 v. : "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy he saved us by the washing of regeneration and the renewing of the Holy Ghost."

Art. 11. We believe that washing the Saint's feet was ordained by Christ to be done by his children in a Church capacity until His second coming.

John 13 chap. 5 v. : "After that He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciple's feet and wipe them with the towel wherewith He was girded." 14 v. : "If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet, ye, also, ought to wash one another's feet." 15 v. : "For I have given you an example that ye should do as I have done unto you." 1 Tim. 5 chap. 10 v. : "Well reported of for good works. If she have brought up children, if she have lodged strangers, if she have washed the Saint's feet, if she have relieved the afflicted, if she has diligently followed every good work."

Table of Statistics.

Table of Statistics														
CHURCHES.		COUNTY.	POST OFFICE.	DELEGATES NAMES										
				Ordained Ministers marked 1. Licentates marked 2 Absentees marked 3.										
				Sabbath meeting.										
				Contributions										
				Total Number										
				Dead										
				Restored										
				Excluded										
				Dismissed b. letter										
				Rec'd on con. faith.										
				Received by letter.										
				Baptised										
First District.	Chilton	Cooper's Station	Wm Downs, R Ward.	2				1	1	2	57	4 00	2	
Bethel	Coosa	Rockford	J P Sayers, J R Guy					1			135	2 01	2	
Swamp Creek	Elmore	Deatsville	W B Nobles 3 W S Parrish.						1		7	51	4	
Coosa River	"	Wetumpka	Not Represented											
Rama														
Second District.	Elmore	Chaney Creek	J R Powell, B F Kelley.					2			31	3 06	1	
Chaney Creek	Tallapoosa	Bulger's Mill	J L Lambreth 1 W G Foshee.					1			7	51	3	
Pleasant Hill	Elmore	Equality	D J Sayers, L M Parker.						1	4	21	1 50	2	
Mt. Gillead	"	Tallassee	W H Sayers, L T Cabenhead 3	1	9			1	1		34	2 03	3	
Salem	Coosa	Equality	Benjamin Jowers, J D M Jowers.	2	2						154	3 51	4	
Bethel	"	Fish Pond	John S Ogletree, A G Holloway 3.	4	2			1			14	4 60	3	
Fish Pond	Shelby	Columbiana	J M Dikes, J J McLeRoy 1.					1	1	3	28	2 50	1	
Third District	"	Harpersville	I K Crumpton, J E McCall, 1.						1	2	1	22	2 00	4
Mt Olive	St. Clair	Broken Arrow	FC Stephens, J J W Heren.	3	6						18	2 00	3	
Ebenezer	Talladega	Talladega	John Andrews, J M C Norman.									6	1 00	2
Mt. Carmel														
Rockamount														

for printing 600 copies of \$10 00.

Received of John S. Ogletree, Clerk of the Wetumpka Association, \$10 00, for printing 600 copies of these Minutes.

JNO E. WARE.

